

wherein said list of suitable input items includes items which are suitable by virtue of having a nested member which is suitable.

15. - 20. --CANCELLED--

Remarks

General

A. Status of application

Claims 1-20 are pending in the subject application. The Examiner had indicated in his prior Office Action allowable subject matter in claims 4, 7, 12-14 and 19-20 subject to rewriting those claims in independent form including base and intervening limitations (which were amended accordingly, in Applicant's response). However, the Examiner has modified that position based on newly-uncovered art. Presently, claim 12 is indicated as allowed, and claims 7, 10, 13, and 14 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form and incorporate base and intervening limitations. Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11, and 15-20 stand rejected in view of new art. By this Amendment, Applicant has again amended certain claims in an effort to better distinguish the claimed invention. Re-examination and reconsideration of the claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

B. Objected-to claims

The Examiner has indicated that claims 7, 10, 13, and 14 are allowable if rewritten in independent form, incorporating base and intervening limitations. These claims have been amended accordingly, and thus are now believed to be in condition for allowance. (A detailed discussion of Applicant's basis for patentability of these claims is provided in Applicant's previously-filed response.)

Prior art rejection: 35 USC Section 102(a): McFedries

Claims 1-6, 8-9, 11 and 15-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(a) as being anticipated by McFedries, P., *Visual Basic for Applications Unleashed*. In an effort

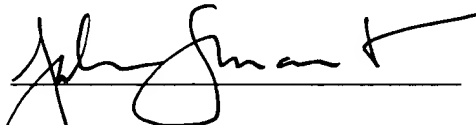
to expedite prosecution of the present application, these claims have been canceled.
Applicant intends to pursue these claims (or ones of equal or similar scope) in a continuation application.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and the amendment to the claims, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Hence, it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue at an early date. If for any reason the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (408) 395-8819.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 7, 2001

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Smart", is written over a horizontal line.

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